

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is requested in view of the amendments above and the remarks below. Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter Claims 2, 4, 8, 9 and 20. Claims 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14-16, 19, 21 and 23 are pending. Claims 1, 4, 5, 9 and 16 are amended to include allowable subject matter. No new matter has been added.

1. Rejection Under 35 USC 102**A. Rejection of Claims 5, 10, 16 and 18 Under 35 USC 102 Over U.S. Pat. No. 5,869,583**

The Office Action rejected Claims 5, 10, 16 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 5,869,583 (Granel). The rejection should be withdrawn.

B. Rejection of Claims 5, 7 and 16-19 Under 35 USC 102 Over U.S. Pat. No. 3,985,718

The Office Action rejected Claims 5, 7, 16, 17 and 19 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3,985,718 (Chabert). The rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 4, 5, 9 and 16 have been amended to include allowable subject matter. Claims 1, 5 and 16 have been amended to include subject matter of allowable subject matter of cancelled Claims 2, 8, and 20, respectively. Claims 4 and 9 have been rewritten in independent form.

Accordingly, Claims 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14-16, 19, 21 and 23 overcome the cited references. Reconsideration of the rejections under 35 USC 102 is requested.

2. Rejection Under 35 USC 103**A. Rejection of Claims 7 and 19 Under 35 USC 103 Over U.S. Pat. No. 5,869,583**

The Office Action's rejection of Claims 7 and 19 Under 35 USC 103 Over U.S. Pat. No. 5,869,583 (Granel) should be withdrawn.

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B. Rejection of Claims 1, 3, 10, 11, 13-15 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 3,985,718

The Office Action rejected Claims 1, 3, 10, 11, 13-15 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 3,985,718 (Chabert).

As discussed, Claims 1, 4, 5, 9 and 16 have been amended to include allowable subject matter. Reconsideration of the rejections under 35 USC is requested.

In view of the above remarks and modifications, Applicants earnestly request allowance of all claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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